

# MARINE CORPS UNIVERSITY



## **INTERNATIONAL LIAISON OFFICERS**

### **MISSION**

The International Liaison Officers are primarily concerned with facilitating interoperability between their service and the Marine Corps. They stay in contact with new Marine initiatives in all areas including but not limited to Concepts, Doctrine, Requirement, Non-lethal Weapons and the Warfighting Lab. They provide information on their own country's initiatives and methods. The Royal Marine Exchange Officer's mission has a different focus in that he is primarily interested in educational issues.

### **GENERAL**

Marine Corps University has the honor of having five International Liaison Officers and one Exchange Officer on staff. The Liaison Officers represent the French Marines, Korean Marines and the Australian, Canadian and Norwegian Armies. The Exchange Officer is from the UK Royal Marines and functions as an integral member of the University staff. Their offices are located in the basement of Breckinridge Hall. Along with guiding the many international students attending the University, these officers provide a permanent multinational flavor to our courses of study, as well as providing invaluable professional expertise and experience.

### **CONTRIBUTION**

The International Liaison and Exchange Officers possess a great deal of operational experience in various different theaters around the world. Experience on operations with NATO in Europe and in the Balkans, with the UN in the Middle East as well as national operations in Africa, Korea and Northern Ireland.

Each of the Liaison Officers have similar missions, yet there are clear differences in focus. For example, the Norwegian Liaison Officer is a functioning member of the staff of the Command and Staff College, while the Australian Liaison Officer is also responsible for the US Infantry and Armor Branches in addition to the Marine Corps.

In executing their jobs there is a reasonable amount of travel to the main Marine installations around the United States and to conferences and trade shows which discuss and highlight the on-going initiatives of the Corps. Participation in the Warfighting Labs' experiments such as Urban Warrior is a common practice. The Liaison Officers are also involved with coordinating and assisting in visits and training opportunities for units and visitors from their countries.

## **CONCLUSION**

The International Liaison and Exchange Officers are a diverse group of officers working independently to improve interoperability between their countries and the Marine Corps. The Marine Corps University provides easy access to high-level briefings and close proximity to the Gray Research Center. The Marine Corps University provides a professional and supportive environment for fulfilling liaison and exchange duties.